

Click [here](#) to view this email in your browser.



November 8, 2021

Latest News

Rolling in the Dough

The Commonwealth collected \$2.8B in October 2021 exceeding projections by 6%, or \$159.9m. Four months into the fiscal year, that means there is a budget surplus of \$788.2M surplus for the FY 21-22 Budget.

Some News is Better Than No News

On November 5, the U.S. Treasury Department released an updated [Compliance and Reporting Guidance](#) for the American Rescue Plan. The updates address feedback gathered by Treasury, verify reporting timeframes, and clarify reporting deadlines. Townships should expect to receive an email notification from the state Department of Community and Economic Development about the update.

The update again confirms that the annual Project and Expenditure Report for the ARP funds will be due on April 30, 2022, and will cover the period from when you received the funds through March 31, 2022.

In the “News” category, municipalities with populations of more than 50,000 should note that Treasury has changed the reporting requirements. The threshold for single reporting has changed. Only one annual report will now be required for populations of less than 250,000 and that received less than \$10 million. It will be due on April 30, 2022, and will cover from when you received the funds until March 31, 2022.

In the “still waiting” category, Treasury indicated it will provide updated Reporting Guidance, a detailed user guide, and a webinar to assist with reporting prior to the April 2022 reporting cycle. Treasury also noted that it will provide further guidance

for municipalities with less than 50,000 population, known as non-entitlement units (NEUs) in the future, including how to access Treasury's portal for filing reports. Treasury previously indicated that NEUs would not use the ID.me platform.

Please note that Treasury has NOT yet released updated rules for the use of the ARP funds. Check the [PSATS ARP](#) page for the latest.

Governor Signs New Act Allowing Extension of Liquor License Service Areas

Gov. Tom Wolf signed [Act 81 of 2021](#) (HB 425) on Friday to authorize the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (LCB) to temporarily extend the licensed premises of a licensed entity, including a club, retail dispenser, hotel, and restaurant upon request. An extended licensed premise includes any outside serving area that is adjacent to the existing licensed area or within 1,000 feet of the main licensed building even if separated by a road.

The act requires the termination of an extended licensed premise permit if the LCB receives a valid protest or determines that the proposed area does not meet the requirements of the act or board regulations. Act 81 took effect November 5, the date of signing.

Pa. COVID-19 Hospitalizations Continue to Drop

The [number of COVID-19 hospitalizations in Pennsylvania](#) decreased this week from 2,754 to 2,475, a drop for the third week in a row. 573 patients are in the ICU, a slight decrease compared to the previous week's 653. Total deaths in Pennsylvania have reached 31,898, with 444 new deaths reported this week, a decrease for the second week in a row compared to the previous week.

After three weeks of decreasing cases, 28,872 new cases new of COVID-19 were reported last week, an increase over the prior week. The statewide COVID-19 total case count now stands at 1,593,811. The commonwealth fell to 20th in cases per 100,000 nationally, with Alaska, North Dakota, and Montana now in the top three.

After two weeks of decreases, Pennsylvania's statewide percent-positivity rate increased from 8.8% to 9.3%. One county has a rate less than 5% (*compared to 2 last week*), 20 counties have rates of 5% to less than 10% (*compared to 22 last week*), 38 counties have rates of 10% to less than 20% (*compared to 39 last week*); eight counties have a rate of at least 20% but less than 30% (*compared to four last week*). [Click here](#) for more county-specific information.

[Click here](#) for the latest issue of the Pennsylvania Bulletin!

Today in History....

On November 8, 1895, physicist Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen (1845-1923) becomes the first person to observe X-rays, a significant scientific advancement that would ultimately benefit a variety of fields, most of all medicine, by making the invisible visible.

Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate will be in session today, November 8. Watch the session live [here](#).

Congress Passes \$1.2 Trillion Infrastructure Deal...First in Decades

On Saturday, Congress passed a \$1.2 Trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. Here are the highlights:

- \$110 billion for road and bridge infrastructure.
- \$66 billion for passenger rail.
- \$65 billion to provide high-speed internet access and lower prices for service.
- \$65 billion for clean-energy transmission.
- \$55 billion for drinking water, including the elimination of lead pipes.
- \$50 billion to protect against droughts, heat, floods, and wildfires, as well as weatherization.
- \$39 billion for mass transit.
- \$21 billion to clean up Superfund and brownfield sites, reclaim abandoned mines, and cap orphaned oil and gas wells.
- \$17 billion for ports and \$25 billion for airports.
- \$7.5 billion to build a national network of electric vehicle chargers.

[Click here](#) for more.

Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.

[Webinar - Maximizing Your COVID Relief Funds through Facilities Projects - 11/9/21](#)

This session will walk you through options for leveraging your funding into lasting, impactful facilities projects that will become valuable township assets.



[Webinar - Efficiencies in Park and Open Space Management - 11/10/21](#)

Designed to emphasize the importance of parks and public open space as essential elements in community infrastructure, this webinar will highlight opportunities for land managers to improve maintenance, operational efficiencies, and sustainability efforts.



[Webinar - Top 10 Strategies for Using ARPA Funding for Stormwater Management - 11/16/21](#)

This webinar will summarize federal guidance for the use of ARPA funds for water quality, flood resilience, and land protection projects, with an emphasis on how this limited funding can best be used to meet long-term community needs.



[Webinar - Taxes/Finance-A Quick Dive into Article XXIII of the Second Class Township Code - 11/18/21](#)

In this webinar, we will review what the Second Class Township Code allows – and does not allow – when it comes to township taxes and finance.



[Webinar - Preparing for an Audit of ARPA Expenditures: What to Do Now - 11/22/21](#)

This webinar is designed to address the potential audit of township expenditures of ARPA funds by the federal government.



[Webinar - The ABCs of Liquid Fuels Tax Funds - 11/23/21](#)

Attend this session to learn the basics about liquid fuels funding, including how it's allocated, what can be purchased, and where townships can turn for support and assistance.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

David M. Sanko, Executive Director

4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025